माध्यम से पैसा दिया जाए। इसको खत्म कर दिया जाए। यह मेरी व्यक्तिगत राय है, चेयरमैन साहब।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। श्री मूल चन्द मीणा।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदया से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो MPLAD स्कीम है, इस स्कीम के माध्यम से, जैसे राजस्थान के अंदर पीने के पानी का बहुत संकट है और इस संकट को दूर करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की स्वजल-धारा स्कीम चली है, जिसमें 10 प्रतिशत गांव के लोगों का योगदान रहता है और तभी जाकर स्कीम सेंक्सन होती है,...

श्री सभापति: आप तो क्वैश्चन कर लीजिए।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा: सर, राजस्थान जैसे राज्य के अंदर कई सालों से अकाल पड़ता रहा है।

श्री सभापति: यह आप क्या अकाल को याद कर रहे हैं। आप तो क्वैश्चन पूछिए।

श्री मूल चन्द मीणा: सर, ऐसी स्थिति में गांव के लोग तो अपना 10 परसेंट हिस्सा दे नहीं सकते। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो दस परसेंट राशि है, वह सहराशि जमा कराने के लिए क्या आप इजाजत देंगे, जिससे स्वजल-धारा के अंतर्गत जो स्कीम सेंक्सन होनी हैं, वे सेंक्सन हो सकें?

श्री सभापति: यह स्कीम तो डिफरेण्ट है, वे सेंक्सन कैसे दे सकते हैं? नेक्स्ट क्वेश्चन।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Conversion of LOC into International Boundary

*402. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the claim made by former US Assistant Secretary of State Sortbe Talbot on Indian willingness to convert LoC as international boundary with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether such a proposal was considered or considered or conveyed to the US by India at any stage?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Government of India's principled and consistent position on the issue of Jammu & Kashmir is that the entire State of

Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible occupation of Pakistan. This position has been reaffirmed by the Kashmir Resolution adopted by the Parliament of India on 22 February 1994. India is committed under the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, to resolve all issues with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral discussions.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank the Minister for his reply. Part (b) of my question was very specific. This is a sensitive issue and concerns the entire country as the hon. Minister has referred to the Resolution of the Parliament that the entire State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Part (b) of my question referred to any proposal if it was considered by the previous Government and conveyed because you have accepted that your attention has been drawn to the claim made by Strobe Tallbot, the then Deputy Secretary of State. It is not once but thrice in his book. Sir, it is on pages 94, 150 and 124. On different occasions, an offer was made that India was considering this possibility. Since the Government's attention has been drawn to this book and you confirmed that you have seen this book and the contents thereof, then we would like to know and this House must know whether these proposals were made and why the Parliament then was not kept informed.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as this Government is concerned, there is absolutely no such proposal because I have already stated Government of India's principled and consistent position that the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India is irrevocable. So, as a matter of fact, this has been brought to our notice by what Strobe Tallbot has written in 'Engaging India', wherein he has mentioned what had transpired between himself and the former Foreign Affairs Minister of India and now Leader of Opposition, Shri Jaswant Singh. This is a matter which they had transacted. So far as the Government of India is concerned, there is no such proposal under consideration and we are not going to ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The Minister can't answer for this Government only. He has said, "so far as this Government is concerned". All the records of the Ministry of External Affairs are available to the hon. the Minister of State and he should answer for the NDA Government also. He can't just say, "This Government is committed". Is there any record ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: How can it be 'this Government' or 'that Government'?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: No such proposal has been considered at any stage and that's what I said ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: This is the right answer. You were trying to be clever in your first answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. That is what I mentioned. This is what is mentioned in the book.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No, Sir. You did not say. You said 'the commitment of this Government', and thereby, by implication you are saying that the NDA Government did not ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I emphatically say, no such proposal has been considered at any stage. ...*(Interruptions)*... So far as I am concerned, I do not have anything ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, ठीक है ...(व्यवधान)... शर्मा जी, आप सैकेंड सप्लिमेंट्री कर लीजिए।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Anand Sharma has been very clearly saying ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yashwant Sinhaji, Strobe Tallbot's book does not refer to my friend Yashwant Sinhaji, but it does not refer to the former Foreign Minister, and the hon. Leader of the Opposition, Jaswant Singhji. And not once, but in three different meetings, at three different venues, he has said. Now we would like to know the truth. If no such proposal was considered, how can Strobe Tallbot had claimed in writing that this was conveyed, that the then Government was considering the possibility of converting the LoC into an international border? ...*(Interruptions)*... This was not said once, but on three occasions. ...*(Interruptions)*... We would like to know why the Parliament, then, was kept in dark and how the Minister can say that, at no stage this was considered. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you trying to imply that what Strobe Tallbot said is not true? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठिए, बैठिए।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, this is not true. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is what I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I am in a hepless position. I can only speak on behalf of this Government. I said 'no such proposal has been considered at any stage by the Government'. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why the previous Government did not bring the matter to the notice of the Parliament, I am not in a position to tell. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Government is an entity; it is a continuing entity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are speaking on behalf of the Government, irrespective of the present or the past one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I cannot say why the previous Government has not brought the matter to the notice of the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: This is not right, Sir. This is an insinuation.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: This is not acceptable, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: What I said is, I am in a hepless position today ...*(Interruptions)*... Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You just said 'this Government'. And now you are going back! ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: You said, "At any stage this proposal was not informed!" Stick to that; 'at any stage', 'at any stage by the Government of India'.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I have only said, there was no such proposal under the consideration of the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It is not by this Government or that Government, by this Minister or that Minister ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a continuing entity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I cannot say why the previous Government did not bring the matter to the notice of the Parliament. This is what I said ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, this type of discussion may enjoy the petty political points, but in the national interest, having such kind of a discussion which is totally based on untruth is not proper. The Prime Minister is sitting here; he must come out clearly that at no point of time,

the Government of India in the last 57 years has accepted the LoC as an international border and suggested this to anybody.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: This is exactly what I said. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Whether it was discussed or conveyed ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The Minister replied that the Government of India ...*(Interruptions)*... Any Minister who represented the Government of India has never given it officially, on record. He says it; at no stage it has been given on record. So, the records are clear. The stand of the Government of India is clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you doing this?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, आप लिखित उत्तर पढ़िए, लिखित उत्तर शुरू ही इससे होता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: How can the foreign Minister speak like this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Is this a new parliamentary procedure, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, it is a very important question of procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, आप लिखित उत्तर पढ़िए: 'The Government of India's principled and consistent position'. "The Government of India's principled and consistent position on Jammu & Kashmir is that the entire State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India." This is the principled and consistent stand of the Government of India...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Yes.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: ...whether it was the NDA Government or whether it is the UPA Government now or whether it was any other Government earlier. It was a principled and consistent stand of the Government of India. So, don't say 'this Government'. The Government of India is an entity, a continuing one. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The Government of India means the NDA Government as well as the UPA Government.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: I do agree with you.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: As far as the UPA Government is concerned, लिखित उत्तर में बिल्कुल क्लीअर है, उसको डाइल्यूट मत करिए। उसको 'this Government' कहकर डाइल्यूट मत करिए।

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: We will not allow all this in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, my second supplementary...

श्री सभापति: हो गया, सैकंड सप्लिमेंट्री हो गया आपका। ...(व्यवधान)... हो गया सैकंड, बैठ जाइए। सैकंड ही नहीं, थर्ड भी हो गया।

SHRI ANAND SHRAMA: Sir, it is very important.

श्री सभापति: इम्पोर्टेंट है, ठीक है, लेकिन आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the House is still not being fully informed. I would like to quote from the book. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बुक के संबंध में रहने दीजिए।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: This claim has been made on three different occasions and there has never been any rebuttal of that claim. In what capacity was it then made? Be it any Government, it is clear that we have consistent position. If the Deputy Secretary of the United States made this on three occasions and this was conveyed, on what basis was it done? My queston is whether it was considered, whether this information was passed on to us, how it was conveyed and on what basis it was done. ...*(Interruptions)*... We had also passed a Parliamentary Resolution which he had referred to. How was it conveyed? (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, Mr. Anand Sharma is making an insinuation. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I am not making any insinuation. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You are making an insinuation. (*Interruptions*)... It is the Government of India, as Shrimati Sushmaji has read out. (*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: कौन आपको डिस्प्यूट कर रहा है? उन्होंने तो कह दिया है कि गवर्नमेंट है, तो ठीक है। (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I have only one question, whether Mr. Strobe Talbott's claim was correct or not. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI E. AHAMMED: When there was no such proposal at any stage, I have nothing to say on that. (*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, आपकी बात पूरी हो गई। क्या आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं? Dr. Karan Singh.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very sensitive matter. It is true that when my father signed the Instrument of Accession, legally and constitutionally the State became part of the Indian Union. But it is also true that on 1st January, 1949 there was a ceasefire, as a result of which almost half the area of the original State was no longer under our rule. In the last 57 years, from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's time to the present, all sorts of suggestions have come up. You can't say that no suggestions have ever been made. It is open to anybody to make suggestions. The point is that no suggestion has yet been agreed upon and the Prime Minister had a series of talks with President Musharraf. I think we should not complicate the position of the Government of India any further and we should leave it at that.

*403. [*The questioners (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD AND SHRI RAM JETHMALANI) were absent. For answer vide page* 33].

*404. [*The questioners (SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI AND SHRI AMAR SINGH) were absent. For answer vide page* 33].

Cloud seeding technique for artificial rains

405. SHRI B.J. PANDA:††
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some drought-hit States are invoking cloud seeding technique for artificial rains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the action plan of the Centre to help Orissa State to develop this technique; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is

††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri B.J. Panda.